

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 01175 101258Z

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 DIWY-01 /032 W

-----069912 101302Z /45

R 090951Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7394

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 1175

FOR AID/W

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, LT

SUBJECT: VISIT BY NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN

REF: A. STATE 157543, B. STATE 84212,

1. GRAVES AND FITTS VISITED LESOTHO TO MEET LEADERS OF WOMENS' GROUPS AND TO SEE IF THERE WERE ANY PROJECTS THAT THE N.C. N.W. COULD CONTRIBUTE TO. THEY HAD A VERY FULL PROGRAM HERE, VISITING MANY PROJECTS, WOMENS' GROUPS, SEVERAL VILLAGES, HEALTH CLINICS AND PLACES OF GENERAL INTEREST.

2. ON SUNDAY, JULY 23, EMBOFF ATTENDED A TEA GIVEN IN HONOR OF GRAVES AND FITTS AND ATTENDED BY LEADERS OF MOST WOMENS' GROUPS IN MASERU AND ROMA. MS. GRAVEU MADE A VERY STRAIGHT FORWARD, HARD-HITTING SPEECH REGARDING THE LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS OFFERED BY THE WOMENS' GROUPS ALMOST ALL OF WHICH INVOLVED DAY CARE CENTERS FOR WORKING MOTHERS. MS. GRAVES GRACEFULLY BUT FIRMLY EXPLAINED THAT THE EMPHASIS OF N.C.N.W. IS ON RURAL WOMEN WHEREAS DAY CARE CENTERS ARE LARGELY ORIENTED TOWARDS HELPING THE WEALTHIER TOWN WOMEN.

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3. HER SPEECH HAD A SOBERING EFFECT ON THE WOMEN PRESENT. EACH SPOKE IN TURN UFTER THE PRESENTATION AND SEVERAL WOMEN MENTIONED THE NEED TO RETHINK PRIORITIES AND THE NEED TO BECOME ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN IMPROVING THE POSITION AND LIFE OF RURAL WOMEN.

14. COMMENT: THE WOMENS( GROUPS WERE VERY DISAPPOINTED IN THE LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR DAY CARE CENTER AID. IN THEIR INEXPERIENCE IN SEEKING AID, THE WOMEN SEEMED TO FEEL THAT BEING ACTIVE WOMEN

IN A POOR COUNTRY WAS ALL THEY NEEDED TO RECEIVE THE HELP THEY WANTED. HOWEVER, THEY NOW SEE THAT THEY MUST COME UP WITH PRIORITIES THAT ARE ATTRACTIVE TO DONORS.

5. THERE IS A GROWING FRUSTRATION OVER THE NUMBER OF TRIPS TO LESOTHO MADE BY WOMEN OF THE N.C.N.W. AND THE LACK OF RESULTS. THS LESOTHO WOMENS' GROUPS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE BETTER PREPARED IF THERE IS ANOHTER VISIT AND THEY WILL ALSO EXPECT SOME ACTION. AT THS SAME TIME, THEY WILL CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF DAY CARE CENTERS.  
BIELAK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WOMEN, VISITS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION AID  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 157543, 77 STATE 84212  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT BY NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN  
**TAGS:** EAID, LT, NCNW, (GRAVES), (FITS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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